

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill (S. 672) making supplemental appropriations and rescissions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL GUARD

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on the structure and modernization of the National Guard, receiving testimony from Lt. Gen. Edward D. Baca, Chief, National Guard Bureau; Maj. Gen. William A. Navas, Jr., Director, Army National Guard; Maj. Gen. Donald W. Shepperd, Director, Air National Guard; Maj. Gen. Richard C. Alexander, Ohio National Guard; Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Oregon National Guard; Maj. Gen. Jacob Lestenkof, Alaska National Guard; and Brig. Gen. Daniel James, III, Texas National Guard.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, May 7.

SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Securities concluded hearings on proposals to reform the Social Security system, focusing on the impact of a proposal to privatize the Social Security trust fund on the stock market, the securities industry and the United States economy, after receiving testimony from Roger W. Mehle, Executive Director, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board; D.K. Kebodeaux, First Financial Capital Corporation, Houston, Texas; and Marc E. Lackritz, Securities Industry Association, and Michael Tanner, Cato Institute, both of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded hearings on the nomination of Andrew J. Pincus, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

U.S. TRADE POLICY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee held hearings to examine how the United States is using international trade to promote economic prosperity and stability in the 21st century, receiving testimony from William M. Daley, Sec-

retary of Commerce; and Charlene Barshefsky, United States Trade Representative.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

TELEPRESENCE

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space concluded hearings to examine the use of "Telepresence", the enabling technology for telemedicine and distance learning, after receiving testimony from Arnauld E. Nicogossian, Acting Associate Administrator, Office of Life and Microgravity Sciences and Applications, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Nat Durlach, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge; S.K. Ganapathy, Bell Labs/Lucent Technology, Murray Hill, New Jersey; Henry Fuchs, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Ken Gabriel, DARPA/ETO, Arlington, Virginia; James E. Brick, West Virginia University School of Medicine, Morgantown; and Kate Stetzner, Margaret Leary Elementary School, Butte, Montana.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Kevin L. Thurm, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, and Richard J. Tarplin, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Prior to this action, committee concluded hearings on the nominations (listed above), after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Committee on Finance: Committee held hearings on proposals to improve children's access to health care, including S. 13, to provide access to health insurance coverage for uninsured children and pregnant women, S. 511, to require that the health and safety of a child be considered in any foster care or adoption placement, to eliminate barriers to the termination of parental rights in appropriate cases, and to promote the adoption of children with special needs, and S. 526, to increase the excise taxes on tobacco products for the purpose of offsetting the Federal budgetary costs associated with the Child Health Insurance and Lower Deficit Act, receiving testimony from Senators Daschle, Kennedy, and Frist; Barbara A. DeBuono, New York State Department of Public Health, Albany; Christine Ferguson, Rhode Island Department of Human Services, Cranston; Donald W. Herman, Iowa Division of Medical Services, Des Moines; Michael J. Koch, California Kids Healthcare Foundation, Woodland Hills; and Rose M. Naff, Florida Healthy Kids Corporation, Tallahassee.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CRIME AND VIOLENCE

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia concluded hearings on S. 294, to establish Federal penalties for the killing or attempted killing of a law enforcement officer of the District of Columbia, after receiving testimony from Senator Hutchison; Carol Schwartz, Member, Council of the District of Columbia, Stephen Harlan, Vice Chairman, District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, Eugene N. Hamilton, Chief Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Larry D. Soulsby, Chief, Metropolitan Police Department, and Robert E. Moffit, Heritage Foundation, H. Beecher Hicks, Jr., Metropolitan Baptist Church, and Tracie Gibson, all of Washington, D.C.; and Gary Mather and James Stewart, both of Booz-Allen & Hamilton, Inc., Falls Church, Virginia; and C. Stephen Wallis, Ellicott City, Maryland.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded oversight hearings on the operations of the Department of Justice, after receiving testimony from Janet Reno, Attorney General, Department of Justice.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN FEDERAL CONSTRUCTION

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee concluded hearings to examine equal opportunity issues in the Federal construction industry, including the impact of the proposed Executive Order to require project labor agreements to be utilized for all federal and federally funded construction projects, and S. 606, to prohibit discrimination in contracting on federally funded projects on the basis of certain labor policies of potential contractors, after receiving testimony from Senator Hutchinson; John A. Koskinen, Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget; Robert A. Georgine, Building and Construction Trades Department/AFL-CIO, and R. Bruce Josten, United States Chamber of Commerce, both of Washington, D.C.; Tom Roller, Granite Construction Company, Watsonville, California, on behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America; Peter G. Vigue, Cianbro Corporation, Pittsfield, Maine, on behalf of the Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.; and John T. Dunlop, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee will meet again on Tuesday, May 6.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 21 public bills, H.R. 1487-1507; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 75, H. Con. Res. 69, and H. Res. 137-138, were introduced.

Pages H2089-91

Reports Filed: One report was filed as follows:

H. Res. 136, providing for consideration of H. Res. 129, providing amounts for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Fifth Congress (H. Rept. 105-84).

Page H2052

Adoption Promotion Act: By a yea-and-nay vote of 416 yeas to 5 nays, Roll No. 96, the House passed H.R. 867, to promote the adoption of children in foster care.

Pages H2015, H2034-35

Agreed to the Committee amendment in the nature of a substitute as modified and amended.

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Agreed to:

The Traficant amendment that expresses the sense of the Congress that, to the greatest extent practicable, all equipment and products purchased with funds made available under this Act should be American-made;

Page H2029

The Morella amendment that provides that at least one of the projects approved pursuant to the authority to approve home child protection demonstration projects shall address kinship care;

Page H2031

The Jackson-Lee amendment that provides, at the option of the States, for a criminal record and child abuse registry check for prospective foster or adoptive parents and employees of child care institutions; and

Pages H2031-33

The Maloney of New York amendment that expresses the sense of the Congress that the States